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70th Intelligence Wing
Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

June 2002

Col. Beatty bids farewell to wing, Air Force

by Col. Harold J. Beatty
70th Intelligence Wing Commander

Photo by MSgt. Rick Corral

Col. Harold J. Beatty (center) prepares to accept the 70th Intelligence Wing flag during the wing stand up ceremony August 16, 2000. As commander of the Air Force's "newest" wing, he assumed responsibility for more than 4,500 members assigned to three groups, 10 squadrons and 17 operating locations world-wide. Col. Beatty retires from the Air Force in August after serving more than 35 years.

It's hard to believe that it's been almost two years since I set foot on McGlachlin Field and took command of the 70th Intelligence Wing. A lot has happened in these past 22 months. When we gathered together, August 16, 2000 and established the newest wing in the Air Force, we knew it was going to be hard work and require unyielding determination to make the dream a reality.

As I step on the parade field in July to relinquish command and prepare for retirement, I will be doing so knowing that the men and women of the 70th Intelligence Wing have stepped up to the challenge of not only establishing an Air Force wing from scratch, but accomplishing this feat under some of the most demanding conditions. Never before have members of the intelligence community performed a new mission while undergoing attacks and threats of attack on the home front. I applaud you for this momentous effort.

Looking back on my career, I feel I must reflect on how much the Air Force has evolved in the past 35 years. I entered the Air Force as an enlisted member, but dreamed of being an officer. I know there are many of you out there with that same dream and other dreams just as challenging. I encourage you to accept those challenges, pursue those dreams and dare to achieve all that you can in life.

At the end of the Vietnam War, our chosen profession was one that had little respect from the American people. Some constants within the Air Force family, even in the darkest of times, are pride, dedication and esprit de corps. I'm very honored to have had the opportunity to spend a good part of my life as a member of this team.

Now, so many years and world conflicts later, we can walk through the community with the pride that comes with serving our country. Although we are more accepted today, we are now fighting a new war, under new terms; a war in which our daily routine of work, recreation, and family time may be threatened.

I could leave the Air Force with the fear of the unknown and the thought that we are not prepared to handle any future aggression, but over the years my confidence has steadily increased. And I know those of you who have followed in my footsteps are prepared to carry the torch and ensure this nation's security.

The members of this wing are the very best this country has to offer and our shield against all the evil trying to destroy our way of life. Rest assured that your efforts will not be in vain, but it's not going to be easy. Our enemy will settle for nothing less than our total elimination. We must believe in our way of life, educate those we work and live with, and inspire others to enlist after us.

I've served my time and must retire, but my heart, mind and soul will always be with the mission and people of the 70th Intelligence Wing and the United States Air Force. Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Commander.

Stay vigilant and God Bless!

100 percent TA will benefit AF people

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – Air Force people soon will benefit from a new Department of Defense tuition assistance policy that pays 100 percent of the cost of tuition for off-duty courses, according to Air Force education officials.

"The policy, effective Oct. 1, 2002, will pay tuition costs and mandatory fees for up to a maximum of $250 per semester hour, or $750 per 3-hour course," said Jim Sweizer, chief of the Air Force voluntary education branch at the Pentagon. The policy also includes a $4,500-per-year tuition assistance ceiling.

"In the past, we only paid instructional fees, such as a lab fee for science courses," Sweizer said. "Under the new policy, as long as the total cost falls under the authorized total, the student doesn't have to pay any money out of [his or her] pocket."

However, tuition assistance cannot be used to pay for textbooks unless they are included in an academic institution's published tuition rates, he said.

With 100 percent tuition assistance available to airmen, some people might opt to waive contributing to the Montgomery GI Bill, Sweizer said. He recommends bluesuiters continue to take advantage of the benefits the GI Bill presents. "Not everyone will be able to complete his or her education while on active duty," he said. "Having the MGIB as an alternative for later use is a wise investment."

The increase to 100 percent tuition assistance was authorized by Congress two years ago but was not funded until fiscal 2003. The tuition assistance program is the same across the entire Defense Department. Each service had two years to develop a plan to make the programs work together.

For more information regarding the new tuition assistance policy, contact the 694th Support Squadron Education Services Flight at 301-677-0704.

Photo by MSgt. Rick Corral

694th Support Squadron Education Services personnel, (from left) SrA Joseph Johnson, Mr. Ralph Bolden, and Ms. Maureen Bunn, assist MSgt. Jan Backer-Holmes with tuition assistance.

Commander's Action Line

A direct link to the 70th Intelligence Wing Commander

An action line is a monthly column designed to address the questions and concerns of members of the 70th Intelligence Wing.

The column is intended as a forum to support individual concerns and should be used in conjunction with the "Chain of Command," Inspector General, Chaplain, or other professional means.

Try to resolve issues and problems at the lowest level possible. If you feel you are not getting satisfactory results, you may direct your concern to this forum.

Questions and concerns must be accompanied with a complete name, phone number or e-mail address for official responses. Those without names or contact information will not be printed, but will receive the commander's attention. Action items can be brought into the public affairs office in building 9805, room 205-+ or e-mailed to 70iw.pa.allpersonnel@ft-meade.af.mil

Look for an Action Line hot button on the 70 IW web page.

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'Shooting Star' makes 2002 Tops in Blue team

by SSgt. Kristina Brown
70th Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

Hard work and determination can go a long way. If you have any doubts, just ask Senior Airman Marcie Mascaro who was recently selected to tour the world with the Air Force's 2002 Tops in Blue team.

Mascaro, a Chinese Linguist with the 22nd Intelligence Squadron (long ago nicknamed the "Shooting Stars") here, found herself in a unique position being stationed at Fort Meade. Most prospective team members get a feel for where they stand by auditioning at their base-wide talent competition, but since Fort Meade is an Army Post, no such competition is held here. Determined not to let that stand in her way, though, Mascaro put together her own audition videotape and sent it in.

For the audition tape, Mascaro drew inspiration from both her favorite movie, "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon", and her background as a Chinese linguist. Her dance routine was choreographed to a song from the movie's soundtrack, and she wore an Asian-inspired costume for the performance. As a result, Mascaro was invited to compete at the 2002 Air Force Worldwide Talent Contest at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, where the best of the best are chosen for Tops in Blue.

Once she arrived for the competition, Mascaro said she realized how tough the competition would be, showcasing 70 entertainers in four major categories – male vocal, female vocal, instrumental and specialty. In addition, each person was judged on numerous personal interviews and specialized auditions. Out of those 70 individuals, 30 were chosen for the entire team including performers, technicians and staff. Members are chosen not only based on their talent, but also on each person's ability to serve as an Air Force ambassador; be "Tops in Blue," both on and off stage; be committed to the extraordinary work ethic required to complete the tour; and function as a member of a cohesive team.

Courtesy photo

SrA Marcie Mascaro is photographed in her Asian-inspired costume during the 2002 Air Force Worldwide Talent Contest.

Mascaro said she loved every minute of it, though, even in her most tense moments. "Being around all those professionals at the Worldwide competion really motivated me and made me even more excited to be a part of Tops," says Mascaro. Her enthusiasm must have shone through in her performances, as Mascaro garnered the second place "Wilco" award in the Musical Variety category. Mascaro says many performers liken the two top awards given in the show, the Golden "Roger," and the second place "Wilco" to the coveted Oscars of Tinsel town.

If being stationed at Fort Meade was an obstacle in any respect, Mascaro says that was completely overshadowed by the great fortune of having the opportunity to hook up with her mentor, local radio personality Lorna Newton (of 96.3, Howard University Radio.)

Mascaro credits much of her success in being selected for Tops in Blue to Newton, a prior Air Force member and Tops in Blue performer who once garnered the competition's top honor, the Golden "Roger" Award. "She taught me everything I know about showmanship and helped prepare me mentally and physically for the competition," said Mascaro, "I couldn't have done it without her."

Mascaro is on her own now, though, as she embarks on a whirlwind tour with this year's Tops in Blue team for about 125 shows in six months, stopping in parts unknown to many, like Macedonia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iceland and Greenland, to name a few. She says she's a little anxious about performing everything in the act, since dancing is her specialty. But she can't wait to try her hand at everything. "I'm really looking forward to traveling all over and entertaining the troops that really need us," said Mascaro.

As Mascaro heads off to represent the Air Force for 2002, she leaves some words of advice for anyone wanting to be a part of Tops in Blue. "Do whatever you need to do to condition and nurture your talent," she said. "Remember, though, there's more than just performing; the people who make the show really happen are the 'techies' – truck drivers, lighting and sound technicians – you name it. It takes much more than just the performers to make this show a success. Talented people are needed at all levels of production."

It just takes some hard work and determination.

373 IG opens new professional development center

Phot by SSgt. Joshua Walker

CMSgt. Charles Clymer, 35th Fighter Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant and CMSgt. Jerry Gething, 373d IG Superintendent, lead the class in a leadership discussion.

by SSgt. Joshua Walker
373d Intelligence Group
Public Affairs Representative

MISAWA AIR BASE, JAPAN — The 373d Intelligence Group celebrated the grand opening of the 373 IG Professional Development Center with its inaugural offering of the revamped Professional Development Course.

Now called a "Supervisor Skills Workshop," the course serves as a tool to augment the Air Force's more formal Professional Military Education and is designed to improve the supervisory skills of 373 IG noncommissioned officers by filling the gap between Airman Leadership School and the Noncommissioned Officer Academy.

The SSW curriculum is divided into two main courses of instruction – counseling and bullet writing. "I did a survey and then put together a tiger team of Senior NCOs to help me develop this course," said SMSgt. Stephen Holland, the Joint Section Operations Superintendent. "What I found was that our first-line supervisors wanted help with counseling (feedbacks and confrontational counseling) and writing (good, solid, hard hitting bullets)."

This isn't the first PDC course instituted at the 373d Intelligence Group, though. The first course was developed by the 301st Intelligence Squadron about two years ago based on the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force's guidance to fill the development education void left when the AF discontinued the NCO Leadership School. Enlisted leadership wanted SNCOs around the Air Force to develop a course to help our mid-level NCOs hone the skills necessary to take care of our Airmen.

Although originally held in a classroom outside Security Hill's main compound, the course was moved inside the main building so students could discuss classified material. The emphasis is on turning classified information bullet statements into statements anyone outside the career field can understand, according to Holland.

The original PDC curriculum was developed along the lines of Air Force PME, discussing broad topics the AF thought people should know.

"Our SSW is a lot different, though," says Holland. "There are a few hours of core values and NCO authority, but it's not the bulk of our curriculum. Supervisors need to know how to perform effective counseling – to let their people know what's expected, and they must know how to capture significant achievements on paper and make them competitive for awards and promotions."

"What sets our SSW apart from other PDCs is the way we conduct the workshop," said CMSgt. Jerry Gething, 373 IG Superintendent. "Each of our students is assigned a 'paper airman' on the first day of class and works with this paper airman throughout the course."

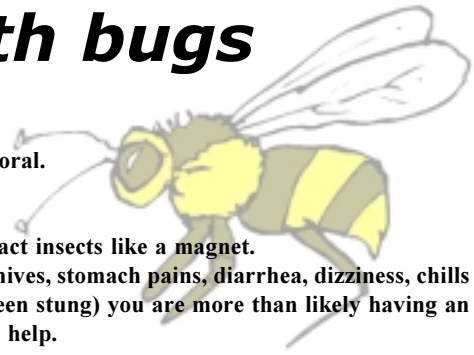
The NCO is expected to conduct feedback and counseling sessions based on the background provided on the paper airman, as well as write an EPR and an award for the airman. The students are completely responsible for their airman all week long.

An unexpected result of the SSW has been the development of a separate one-day bullet- writing forum, taught by Holland. This forum is designed to condense two and a half days of bullet writing techniques into one day, and the audience is generally comprised of "seasoned" technical sergeants, senior NCOs, and junior officers.

The 373d Intelligence Group plans to hold a SSW bi-monthly and separate bullet writing courses much more frequently.

Safety First: harmony with bugs

As summer progresses (as well as the 101 Critical Days of Summer), many people will be spending more time outdoors. Here are just a few tips for living in harmony with the bugs and insects of summer:



*** Wear insect repellent.**
*** Don't wear bright-colored clothing.**
*** Don't use cologne or scented cosmetics, especially floral.**
*** Avoid rapid movements that look like attacks.**
*** If you happen upon a nest - move away slowly.**
*** Don't eat or drink sweet things outdoors. They attract insects like a magnet.**
*** If you are stung by an insect and begin to experience hives, stomach pains, diarrhea, dizziness, chills or facial swelling (regardless of where you may have been stung) you are more than likely having an allergic reaction. Seek immediate emergency medical help.**

2002 Safety Fair

Fort Meade's first-ever Safety, Health and Wellness fair, spearheaded by MSgt. Jim Raabe, 694th Intelligence Group Safety Officer, became a post-wide event and garnered praise from many attendees.

The fair, held in the Morale, Recreation and Fest Tent here, showcased more than 40 organizations from Fort Meade and the surrounding area.

Health, wellness and safety information was available in the forms of handouts, visual displays and hands-on demonstrations on a range of topics, from massage therapy and skin cancer to proper power tool usage and preventing Lyme disease, to name a few.

Throughout the day, the fair attracted more than 2,400 visitors, many of whom left with safety-related door prizes, donated by various vendors.

"This fair was an excellent opportunity to bring all the services together under one roof and share vital information that affects us all," said Raabe.

▲ *CMSgt. Catherine Danzy, 22nd Intelligence Squadron first sergeant, sees what Touch of Therapy Health and Wellness Services has to offer during the Safety Fair.*

◀ *MSgt. Natalie Gartrell , 694th Intelligence Group (left), has her blood pressure taken by Mr. Kenneth Johnson of the Kimborough Ambulatory Care Center Occupational Health Clinic here.*

▲ *DeWalt representative Kevin Rothwell shows SrA Paul Weinstein, 91st Intelligence Squadron, how to properly use a table saw.*

▲ *The American Cancer Society representative (right) shows people how much sun damage their skin has under an ultraviolet light.*

Photos by MSgt. Rick Corral

Eagle Warrior

'Air Combat Command Paralegal of the Year'

MSgt. Corie Whitworth

70th Intelligence Wing Legal Office

Years of service: 21 years (11 years active duty and 10 years as a Reserve Individual Mobilization Augmentee.)

Hometown: Syracuse, N.Y.

Family: "My husband Joe is retired Air Force and works for a Defense Contractor in Annapolis. My boys are Joseph, 17; Christopher, 13; and Alex, 11 -- all active in school and sports activities."

Job Title: Paralegal Craftsman

Primary duties & responsibilities: Manages all administrative functions of the wing legal office in the absence of the Law Office Manager, including legal assistance, claims, and military justice.

Most rewarding job aspect: "Assisting both attorneys and leaders in resolving legal issues that affect our military members."

Goals: "To continue my career as a paralegal in the AF Reserve and in my civilian position."

Hobbies: "Breeding Maltese dogs, digital photography and watching my sons play lacrosse."

Favorite aspect of Fort Meade: Working with all branches of the service.

What would you change about Fort Meade? Make it an Air Force Base.

70th Intelligence Wing salutes ...

Recent Award Winners

NSA Professional Performers of the Year:

Senior Category

MSgt. Brian Cook, 29th Intelligence Squadron

Junior Category

TSgt. Kevin Rogers, 32nd Intelligence Squadron

Distinguished Graduate Award

(Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy at Maxwell AFB, Ala.)

MSgt. Brian Cook, 29th Intelligence Squadron

Quarterly Award Winners (January-March)

Air Force Cryptologic Office Quarterly Award Winners:

Company Grade Officer of the Quarter

1st Lt. Dorian Orr

Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter

MSgt. Ralph Scolamiero

Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter

TSgt. Gregory Adams

Airman of the Quarter

SrA Madeline Clerico

Civilian of the Quarter

Mr. Richard Mader

Airman Leadership School Graduates

70th Intelligence Wing Airman Leadership School Award Winners

Class 2002-E

John L. Levitow Award

SrA Michael A. Herman, 94th Intelligence Squadron (Nighthawk Flight)

Distinguished Graduate Award

SrA James B. Caughron, 22nd Intelligence Squadron (Sentry Flight)

Distinguished Graduate Award

SrA Joshua B. Jones, 22nd Intelligence Squadron (Sentry Flight)

Leadership Award

SrA Carl E. Byrd, 91st Intelligence Squadron (Sentry Flight)

Academic Achievement Award

SrA Joshua B. Jones, 22nd Intelligence Squadron

Nighthawk Flight Graduates

22nd Intelligence Squadron
SrA Jamie L. Berry
SrA Kathleen M. Curry
SrA Kenneth Fredrick-Rock
SrA Brian D. Henrichon
SrA Jennifer Mast
SrA Nang D. Pham
SrA Shawn M. Traver
SrA Christie C. Vecchio

32nd Intelligence Squadron
SrA Aeron Jay Pineiro
SrA Serene K. Whitlock

91st Intelligence Squadron
SrA William R. Claflin
SrA Nathan A. Walters

94th Intelligence Squadron
SrA Diamond Bell

Sentry Flight Graduates

22nd Intelligence Squadron
SrA Peter J. Brennan
SrA Michele Canterbury
SrA Matthew C. Fink
SrA James A. Mahoney

SrA Benjamin J. Murphy
SrA Nelda S. Thacker
SrA Nicole L. Weir

23rd Information Operations Squadron
SrA Richard Boutin

29th Intelligence Squadron
SrA Thomas A. Montour

94th Intelligence Squadron
SrA John Hayes
SrA Ryan Hollingsworth

What is a first sergeant?

by MSgt. Kenneth Goetzke
94th Intelligence Squadron First Sergeant

The first sergeant's role in the Air Force is one that is time honored and rich in custom and tradition. First sergeants derive their authority from the unit commander. They exercise general supervision over assigned enlisted personnel and are the focal point within the unit for all matters concerning enlisted members.

In today's rapidly deployable Air Force, the first sergeant is a critical link in providing the commander a mission-ready enlisted force to execute the unit mission. The first sergeant must prepare him or her self and the enlisted members to deploy in support of mission requirements. Upon arrival at a deployment location, the first sergeant must render leadership to sustain that mission-ready enlisted force.

As the vital link between the commander, enlisted personnel, and support agencies, the first sergeant must ensure the enlisted force understands the commander's policies, goals, and objectives and support agencies are responsive to needs of unit personnel. Additionally, the first sergeant must remain vigilant for and move to resolve issues that, left unchecked, would adversely impact troop readiness. First sergeants accomplish these responsibilities by working closely with their fellow senior noncommissioned officers and line supervisors.

The first sergeant utilizes support agencies to enhance personnel readiness and provide personal assistance to unit members and their families. To maximize his or her effectiveness and minimize potential failures, the first sergeant must develop a seamless communication structure between the commander, unit members, and support agencies.

I Am A First Sergeant

My job is people!
Everyone is my business.
I dedicate my time and energy
to their needs; health, morale, welfare
and discipline. I grow in strength
by strengthening my people.
My job is done in faith;
my people build my faith.
The Air Force is my life;
I share it with my people.

Combating the 'insider threat'

by Special Agent Clifford Posey
Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Detachment 333

Simply put, espionage is the act of spying to obtain intelligence information. To borrow a phrase from the former comic strip character, Pogo, "We have found the enemy, and he is us."

Research has shown that the overwhelming number of Americans arrested for spying the past 20 years have been volunteers or "insiders." How do we look for "insider" spies? One of the things counterintelligence specialists look for is irregular or suspicious behavior. Some common personality characteristics include arrogance, greed and jealousy.

However, any lifestyle activity that is inconsistent with commonly acceptable behavior should be questioned. For example, unexplained wealth; purchases of high value items; frequent domestic or foreign travel for no apparent purpose; excessive use of classified computers; or questionable visits by friends or family from foreign countries. Any of these examples should raise our security awareness.

Counterintelligence specialists look for irregular patterns of behavior because spying, or the intelligence collection activities of our enemy, is frequently revealed by that unusual or irregular behavior. Too often the unusual behavior pattern of the spy is only identified after the spy is caught in his/her illegal activity.

Unfortunately, the "insider" threat within the Air Force is real, and we do not really know how widespread the problem behavior is. What is reported to security and law enforcement appears to be only the tip of the iceberg. It is important to remember that opportunity equals temptation, and that your personal acquaintances and co-workers might very well be the next "insider threat."

Early detection of irregularities through the recognition of unusual behavior patterns of people can help counterintelligence specialists identify spies and espionage activities directed against our national security.

The key elements in fighting the insider threat are security awareness and reporting the threat. Security awareness requires that we make an effort to identify peculiar or unusual situations or behavior. The threshold for reporting suspicious behavior or activity is low. Therefore, when in doubt, report the unusual behavior or activity to your supervisor, local security, or Air Force Office of Special Investigations. Anonymous calls are perfectly acceptable. If necessary, our special agents will protect your identity.

Remember … to counter the espionage threat, it is important that each person is aware of his or her surroundings and that we report anything "irregular" or out of the ordinary to AFOSI or other law enforcement authorities.

For more information or to report suspicious incidents, call AFOSI Detachment 333 at 301-677-0555/0808.

Photo by MSgt. Rick Corral

▲ *SSgt. Michelle Birchfield (left) and SrA Ronoldo Martinez Jr., both members of the 694th Intelligence Group Honor Guard, perform a flag folding during a retirement ceremony at the White House.*

Photo by SSgt. Kristina Brown

▲ *TSgt. Marty Summann, 22nd Intelligence Squadron, tests out an F-16 simulator. Summann and several other members of the First Six Association recently visited the 113th Fighter Wing at Andrews AFB, Md., to get a first-hand look at how the 70th Intelligence Wing's daily mission impacts other units.*

Photo by SSgt. Kristina Brown

▶ *SSgt. Christina Taylor, 22nd Intelligence Squadron, decorates one of the squadron's doors with pictures of current squadron members and family members who served before them. Taylor decorated the door in honor of Memorial Day to give passers by a glimpse of history.*

Photo by SSgt. Kristina Brown

◀ *2nd Lt. Melissa Dooley (left) re-enlists her husband, TSgt. Darren Dooley, 70th Intelligence Wing Small Computers. 2nd Lt. Dooley, previously a satellite communications maintenance specialist with the 789th Communications Squadron at Andrews AFB, Md., was recently commissioned and is now attending medical school at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences. TSgt. Dooley said he was honored to have his wife and best friend enlist him for another four years. 'I can't think of a better way to start the next four years of my career,' he said.*

Think OPSEC!